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Wisconsin Dept. of Financial Institutions

NOV 29 2013

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Financial Institutions

Division of Securities

BEFORE THE STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
DIVISION OF SECURITIES

RECEIVED

NOV 29 2013

Wisconsin Dept of  
Financial Institutions

3 In the matter of )

4 RBC Capital Markets, LLC, )

5 Respondent. )

Case No. S-228969(LX)

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ORDER**

8 WHEREAS, RBC Capital Markets, LLC ("RBC") is a broker-dealer registered in the state  
9 of Wisconsin, with a Central Registration Depository ("CRD") number of 31194; and

10 State securities regulators have conducted coordinated investigations into the registration of  
11 RBC Client Associates ("CAs") and RBC's supervisory system with respect to the registration of  
12 CAs; and

13 RBC has cooperated with regulators conducting the investigations by responding to  
14 inquiries, providing documentary evidence and other materials, and providing regulators with  
15 access to facts relating to the investigations; and

16 RBC has advised regulators of its agreement to resolve the investigations pursuant to the  
17 terms specified in this Consent Order (the "Order"); and

18 RBC agrees to make certain changes in its supervisory system with respect to the  
19 registration of CAs, and to make certain payments in accordance with the terms of this Order; and

20 RBC elects to waive permanently any right to a hearing and appeal under Sec. 551.604 and  
21 609, Wis. Stats., with respect to this Order; and

22 Solely for the purpose of terminating the multi-state investigations, and in settlement of the  
23 issues contained in this Order, RBC, without admitting or denying the findings of fact or  
24 conclusions of law contained in this Order, consents to the entry of this Order.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, the Administrator of the Division of Securities, as administrator of  
26 the Wisconsin Uniform Securities Law, Chapter 551, Wis. Stats., hereby enters this Order:

I.

**FINDINGS OF FACTS**

1. RBC admits the jurisdiction of the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions in this matter.

Background on Client Associates

2. The CAs function as sales assistants and typically provide administrative and sales support to one or more of RBC's registered representatives ("RRs"). There are different CA positions, including Registered Client Associate and Registered Senior Client Associate.

3. The primary job duties vary depending on the specific CA position. In varying degrees, the "Major Job Accountabilities" of a CA include:

- a. Handling client requests;
- b. Resolving client inquiries;
- c. Determining if client issues require escalation to the RR or the branch management team; and
- d. Processing of operational documents such as letters of authorization and client check requests.

4. In addition to the responsibilities described above, and of particular significance to this Order, some CAs are permitted to accept unsolicited orders from clients; others are permitted, with the assistance of a RR, to prospect for new clients, open new accounts, gather assets and select investments to recommend to clients. As discussed below, RBC's written policies and procedures require that any CAs accepting client orders first obtain the necessary licenses and registrations.

5. Notably, RRs might have a "primary CA" and a "secondary CA", or a "primary CA team" and a "secondary CA team". As suggested by the designation, the customary practice is that the primary CA or team would handle the RR's administrative matters and client orders. However, if the primary CA or team was unavailable, the secondary CA or team would step in to handle the RR's administrative matters and client orders.

1           6. During the period from 2005 to 2009, RBC employed an average of approximately 672  
2 CAs per year.

#### 3 4 Registration Required

5           7. Under Sec. 551.402(1), Wis. Stats., it is unlawful for an individual to transact business  
6 in Wisconsin as an agent unless the individual is registered under Chapter 551 as an agent.  
7 “Transact business” is defined at DFI-Sec. 1.02(5) and includes effecting or attempting to effect  
8 transactions in securities, advising any person with respect to securities (including the purchase or  
9 sale), or soliciting any person to become a customer.

10           8. Pursuant to the general prohibition under Sec. 551.402(1), Wis. Stats., a person cannot  
11 accept unsolicited orders in Wisconsin without being registered as a securities agent of the broker-  
12 dealer.

13           9. Pursuant to Sec. 551.412(3), Wis. Stats., a broker-dealer may be assessed a civil penalty  
14 for selling securities in Wisconsin through any agent who is not registered.

#### 15 RBC Requires Registration of Client Associates

16           10. In order for a CA to accept client orders, RBC generally required each CA to pass the  
17 series 7 and 63 qualification exams and to register in the appropriate jurisdictions.

18           11. At all times relevant to this Order, RBC’s policies and procedures specified that each  
19 CA maintain registrations in the same jurisdictions as his or her RR, or broadly required that each  
20 CA maintain registrations in all necessary jurisdictions.

#### 21 Regulatory Investigations and Findings

22           12. During late 2009, RBC received regulatory inquiries regarding CA registrations.

23           13. The multi-state investigation focused on systemic issues with RBC CA registrations and  
24 related supervisory structure. Specifically:

- 25           a. After accepting an order from a client, CAs accessed the electronic order entry  
26           system to place the order;

- 1           b. The order entry system automatically recorded the identity of the person entering  
2           the order using the user's login information. If the order was received from the  
3           client by someone other than the person entering the order, the person entering the  
4           order was required to identify the person who accepted the order from the client by  
5           typing the name or initials in a text box;
- 6           c. RBC's trading system checked the registration of the RR assigned to the account,  
7           but did not check the registration status of the person accepting the order, if  
8           different from the RR, (the "who accepted field") to ensure that the person was  
9           registered in the appropriate jurisdiction.

10           14. The multi-state investigation identified instances in which CAs supported RRs  
11           registered in Wisconsin when the CAs were not registered in Wisconsin as agents of RBC. This  
12           difference in registration status increased the possibility that CAs would accept orders which they  
13           did not solicit from customers without proper registration.

14           15. The multi-state investigation determined that it was highly likely that certain RBC CAs  
15           accepted orders which they did not solicit in Wisconsin at times when the CAs were not  
16           appropriately registered in Wisconsin.

17           16. As a result of the inquiries by state regulators, RBC conducted a review of its CA  
18           registration practices.

19           17. RBC's review found that as of November 2008, the firm had 692 registered CAs.  
20           While CAs were registered in approximately 7 states, at that time RRs were registered, on average,  
21           in 17 states. Approximately 454, almost 66%, of those registered CAs were only registered in their  
22           home state or their home state and one additional state.

23           18. Many RBC CAs were not registered in the same jurisdictions as their respective RRs.  
24           RBC's review identified incidences where CAs who were not properly state registered accepted  
25           orders they had not solicited.

26           19. Beginning in 2010, RBC took steps to enhance its policies and procedures regarding  
            CAs' state registrations, and added a substantial number of CA state registrations.

- a. In January 2010, RBC amended its registration policy to require that each CA register in the same states as the RRs whom they support. RBC alerted the field to this policy.
- b. In November 2010, Supervisors in RBC's branches and complexes reviewed the current CA registrations to ensure the CAs were properly registered prior to the annual renewals.
- c. RBC updated its training to include additional information on registration requirements and on the firm's policies on CA registration. RBC also, as part of the annual registration renewal process, added to the annual renewal notice information regarding the CA registration policy.
- d. RBC modified its procedures regarding the manner in which it grants electronic order entry access to client accounts. The required forms were revised to identify supporting CAs and the forms are provided to the Licensing and Registration department to verify that proper registrations are in place for RRs and CAs when access is granted.
- e. RBC conducted Compliance Training sessions for CAs covering information on order entry procedures and registration requirements.
- f. RBC revised its registration forms to identify assigned CAs on RRs' registration forms and assigned RRs on CAs' registration forms. This allows the registration and licensing group to submit registrations for the CAs that mirror those held by the RRs whom they support.

20. RBC has also undertaken to implement enhancements to its order entry systems and to its supervision of the order entry procedures. The order entry systems will require the individual entering an order either to attest that he or she also accepted the order or to identify the person who accepted the order by entering that person's system ID. RBC policies and procedures prohibit RBC personnel from using any credentials but their own to log on to the order entry systems. RBC

1 is developing an exception report to identify any trades entered in an account for which the person  
2 who accepted the order did not hold the necessary state registration.

3 21. RBC provided timely responses and substantial cooperation in connection with the  
4 regulatory investigations into this issue.

## 5 II.

### 6 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

7 1. The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions has jurisdiction over this matter  
8 pursuant to Sec. 551.613, Wis. Stats.

9 2. RBC's failure to establish an adequate system to monitor the registration status of  
10 persons accepting client orders constitutes a failure to reasonably supervise its agents pursuant to  
11 Ch. 551.412(4)(i), Wis. Stats.

12 3. RBC's failure to ensure its CAs were registered in the appropriate jurisdictions  
13 constitutes a failure to enforce its established written procedures is a violation of DFI Sec. 4.05(2),  
14 and is a basis for an Order imposing disciplinary action by assessing a civil penalty against RBC  
15 under Sec. 551.412(4), Wis. Stats.

16 4. RBC's acceptance of orders in Wisconsin through CAs who were not properly  
17 registered constitutes a basis for an Order imposing disciplinary action by assessing a civil penalty  
18 against RBC under Sec. 551.412(4)(i), Wis. Stats.

19 5. Pursuant to Sec. 551.412(3), Wis. Stats., the violations described above constitute  
20 bases for the assessment of a civil penalty against RBC.

21 6. The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions finds the following relief  
22 appropriate and in the public interest.  
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**III.**

**UNDERTAKINGS**

RBC hereby undertakes and agrees to establish and maintain policies, procedures and systems that reasonably supervise the trade process so that a person can only accept client orders that originate from jurisdictions where the person accepting the order is appropriately registered.

**IV.**

**ORDER**

On the basis of the Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and RBC's consent to the entry of this Order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. This Order concludes the investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions and any other action that the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions could commence against RBC under applicable Wisconsin law as it relates to unregistered activity in Wisconsin by RBC's CAs and RBC's supervision of CA registrations during the period from January 1, 2005 through the date of this Order.

2. This Order is entered into solely for the purpose of resolving the referenced multi-state investigation, and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. For any person or entity not a party to the Order, this Order does not limit or create any private rights or remedies against RBC, limit or create liability of RBC, or limit or create defenses of RBC, to any claims.

3. RBC is hereby ordered to pay the sum of Forty One Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Dollars and Seventeen Cents (\$ 41,220.17) to the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions within ten days of the date of this Order. The monies received by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions pursuant to this paragraph may be deposited in the Gifts, Grants, Settlements and Publications appropriation in sec. 20.144(1)(h), Wis. Stats. for securities and investor education, and/or for other securities and investor protection purposes.

4. RBC is hereby ordered to comply with the Undertakings contained herein.



5. This order is not intended by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions to subject any Covered Person to any disqualifications under the laws of the United States, any state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands including, without limitation, any disqualification from relying upon the state or federal registration exemptions or safe harbor provisions. “Covered Person,” means RBC or any of its affiliates and their current or former officers or former officers, directors, employees, or other persons that would otherwise be disqualified as a result of the Orders (as defined below).

6. This Order and the order of any other State in related proceedings against RBC (collectively, the “Orders”) shall not disqualify any Covered Person from any business that they otherwise are qualified, licensed or permitted to perform under applicable securities laws of the Wisconsin and any disqualifications from relying upon this state’s registration exemptions or safe harbor provisions that arise from the Orders are hereby waived.

7. This Order shall be binding upon RBC and its successors and assigns as well as to successors and assigns of relevant affiliates with respect to all conduct subject to the provisions above and all future obligations, responsibilities, undertakings, commitments, limitations, restrictions, events, and conditions.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2013.

BY ORDER OF THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Patricia D. Struck  
Administrator – Division of Securities



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**CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER BY RBC**

RBC hereby acknowledges that it has been served with a copy of this Consent Order ("Order"), has read the foregoing Order, is aware of its right to a hearing and appeal in this matter, and has waived the same.

RBC admits the jurisdiction of the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions neither admits nor denies the Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law contained in this Order, and consents to entry of this Order by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions as settlement of the issues contained in this Order.

RBC agrees that it shall not claim, assert, or apply for a tax deduction or tax credit with regard to any state, federal or local tax for any administrative monetary penalty that RBC shall pay pursuant to this Order.

RBC states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Order and that it has entered into this Order voluntarily.

Joe Fleming represents that s/he is Sr VP Compliance Director of RBC and that, as such, has been authorized by RBC to enter into this Order for and on behalf of RBC.

Dated this 18 day of November, 2013.

RBC Capital Markets, LLC

By: [Signature]

Title: Sr. V.P. Compliance Director

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 18 day of November, 2013.

[Affix seal]



Helen Ann Morrell  
Notary Public in and for the  
State of Minnesota

My Commission expires:  
1-31-2018